

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 024296
ORIGIN SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /006 R

DRAFTED BY A/SY/OPS/T:M H MUSSER:JW
APPROVED BY A/SY - V H DIKEOS
A/SY/OPS - V F ST MARS

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R 302133Z JAN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LIMA

S E C R E T STATE 024296

SY CHANNEL; FOR AMBASSADOR SHLAUDEMAN FROM DASS DIKEOS

E.O. 11652:XGDS-3

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: ACR

REF: LIMA 0226

1. I CAN FULLY APPRECIATE THE POST'S CRITICAL SPACE
PROBLEM AND YOUR REQUIREMENT FOR A MORE USEFUL CONFERENCE
AREA. I ASSURE YOU THAT SY WILL DO ALL IT CAN TO ASSIST
IN PROVIDING A MORE USEFUL CONFERENCE FACILITY WITHIN THE
TIME FRAME YOU HAVE REQUESTED.

2. I WOULD VERY MUCH APPRECIATE, HOWEVER, YOUR CONSIDERA-
TION OF TWO POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES TO THE SOLUTION YOU HAVE
SUGGESTED. I MAKE THIS REQUEST BECAUSE OF THE VERY CON-
SIDERABLE EXPENSE (SOME 50,000 DOLLARS) AND EFFORT REQUIRED
TO INSTALL THE PRESENT ACR IN LIMA, AND THE POSSIBLE FUTURE
REQUIREMENT FOR A FACILITY IN WHICH SEVERAL PEOPLE MIGHT
HOLD SENSITIVE CONVERSATIONS. UNFORTUNATELY, THERE IS NO

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SUBSTITUTE FOR AN ACR. IT IS THE ONLY TRULY SECURE SYSTEM
FOR SENSITIVE CONVERSATIONS THAT WE CAN PROVIDE. WE
THEREFORE ENDEAVOR TO SUPPLY EVERY MEDIUM TO LARGE POST
WITH AN ACR IN THE BELIEF THAT SUCH A FACILITY IS TYPICALLY
NECESSARY FOR PORTIONS OF THEIR NORMAL CONDUCT OF BUSINESS.

3. AS ONE ALTERNATIVE, SY WOULD BE QUITE WILLING TO WORK

WITH THE POST IN DEVELOPING A GREATLY EXPANDED LIST OF THOSE WHO MIGHT BE ADMITTED TO THE PRESENT ACR. SUCH A LIST MIGHT INCLUDE MOST NON-OFFICIAL AMERICANS AND MANY REPRESENTATIVES OF FRIENDLY NATIONS.

4. AS A SECOND, AND PERHAPS MORE WORKABLE ALTERNATIVE, I HAVE ASKED SY'S DIVISION OF TECHNICAL SERVICES TO PROVIDE A PLAN WHICH WOULD DIVIDE THE PRESENT CONFERENCE ROOM INTO TWO AREAS. ONE AREA WOULD HAVE A MUCH SMALLER ACR OF NINE FEET BY TWELVE FEET (9 X 12), WHICH IS STILL USEFUL FOR AS MANY AS TWELVE PEOPLE, BUT IS THE SMALLEST PRACTICAL ACR. THE SECOND PORTION OF THE PRESENT AREA WOULD PROVIDE A TWELVE FOOT BY THIRTEEN FOOT (12 X 13) UNCLASSIFIED CONFERENCE ROOM ACCOMMODATING AN EIGHT FOOT CONFERENCE TABLE AND SEATING SIXTEEN TO EIGHTEEN PEOPLE IN THE ROOM. THE ONLY CONSTRUCTION REQUIRED FOR THIS ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE ONE PARTITION AND ONE DOOR. MUCH OF THE LABOR COULD BE PROVIDED BY THE RTC OR DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL. WE HAVE FORWARDED DRAWINGS OF THE PROPOSED LAYOUT OF SUCH A SOLUTION TO THE RSO LIMA FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.

5. I HAVE ASKED THAT A TECHNICAL SECURITY OFFICER BE INSTRUCTED TO VISIT LIMA AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY TO ASSIST IN EVALUATING ALL PROPOSALS AND TO MAKE PRELIMINARY PLANS TO CARRY OUT WHATEVER SOLUTION IS AGREED UPON.

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6. I HAVE ALSO INSTRUCTED THE DIVISION OF TECHNICAL SERVICES TO TAKE WHATEVER STEPS ARE NECESSARY TO REACTIVATE THE "BELT" SYSTEM IN THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLITICAL SECTION. THESE "BELT" SYSTEMS ARE CERTAINLY BETTER THAN NOTHING BUT MUST NOT BE RELIED UPON FOR REALLY SENSITIVE CONVERSATIONS, SINCE THEY ONLY PROVIDE PROTECTION AGAINST SOME MICROPHONE SYSTEMS. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: SY
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE024296
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: M H MUSSER:JW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: n/a
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978017/aaaaafit.tel
Line Count: 101
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: c43bfce3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SY
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 LIMA 226
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3783876
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ACR
TAGS: ASEC, OCON, PE
To: LIMA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c43bfce3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014